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State of Maryland
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives
Intergovernmental Affairs Division

Intergovernmental Affairs Advisory December 17, 2012

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. Authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act and administered by FEMA, HMGP was created to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters. The program enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds may be used to fund projects that will reduce or eliminate the losses from future disasters. Projects must provide a long-term solution to a problem, for example, elevation of a home to reduce the risk of flood damages as opposed to buying sandbags and pumps to fight the flood. In addition, a project's potential savings must be more than the cost of implementing the project. Funds may be used to protect either public or private property or to purchase property that has been subjected to, or is in danger of, repetitive damage. Examples of projects include, but are not limited to: Acquisition of real property for willing sellers and demolition or relocation of buildings to convert the property to open space use, Retrofitting structures and facilities to minimize damages from high winds, earthquake, flood, wildfire, or other natural hazards, Elevation of flood prone structures, Development and initial implementation of vegetative management programs, Minor flood control projects that do not duplicate the flood prevention activities of other federal agencies Localized flood control projects, such as certain ring levees and floodwall systems, that are designed specifically to protect critical facilities, and Post-disaster building code related activities that support building code officials during the reconstruction process.

Eligible applicants include: state and local governments, Indian tribes or other tribal organizations, and certain non-profit organizations. Individual homeowners and businesses may not apply directly to the program; however a community may apply on their behalf. All counties and the City of Baltimore in the State of Maryland are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Local governments interested in applying to the HMGP should contact Mark James, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, at [410-517-3649](tel:410-517-3649) or mark.james@maryland.gov. Applications for mitigation projects are encouraged as soon as possible after the disaster occurs so that opportunities to do mitigation are not lost during reconstruction. Attached you will find the Hazard Mitigation Grant program Application.

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